

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Tatsuya OKAMURA et al. : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**
Serial No. NEW : **Docket No. 2002_0240A**
Filed February 13, 2002 :
**A KEY TOP PLATE AND A METHOD FOR
MANUFACTURING THE SAME**

THE COMPTROLLER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE A PENALTY IN THE
FEE FOR THE LATE DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**Prior to initial examination of the above-identified application, kindly amend
the application as follows:**

Kindly amend claim 7 as follows:

7.(Amended) A key top plate in accordance with claim 3, in which said decorative layer is a print layer printed by way of flexographic printing, offset printing, gravure printing, printing with a laser printer, printing with an ink jet printer, or printing with a thermo-transfer printer.

Kindly add new claim 13 as follows:

13.(NEW) A key top plate in accordance with claim 6, in which said decorative layer is a print layer printed by way of flexographic printing, offset printing, gravure printing, printing with a laser printer, printing with an ink jet printer, or printing with a thermo-transfer printer.

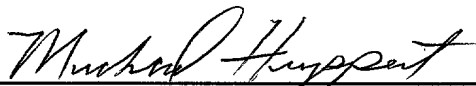
REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependency of claim 7, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Copies of the amended portion of the claims with changes marked therein is attached and entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,

Tatsuya OKAMURA et al.

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a decorative layer is formed on said film plate and also another decorative layer is disposed on an under surface side of said key top.

7. (Amended) A key top plate in accordance with claim 3 [or 6], in which said decorative layer is a print layer printed by way of flexographic printing, offset printing, gravure printing, printing with a laser printer, printing with an ink jet printer, or printing with a thermo-transfer printer.

8. A key top plate in accordance with claim 7, in which a coating layer for improving a fixing property of printing ink is formed on a surface of said resin film, on which said decorative layer is to be arranged.

9. A key top plate in accordance with claim 3, in which said decorative layer consists of deposition film.

10. A key top plate in accordance with claim 3, in which said decorative layer is arranged on said first film plate, wherein a key top exposing section is provided in said decorative layer, said key top exposing section including no decorative layer so as to allow an inside of said key top to be seen through.

11. A key top plate in accordance with claim 10, in which said decorative layer is also arranged on said second film plate.

12. A method for manufacturing a key top plate comprising the steps of: clamping a first and a second film plates placed one on the other, each being made of flexible transparent resin film, between a first die having a cavity for forming a shape of an upper portion of a key top and a